GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2585
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2005
PANCHAYAT SANCHAR SEWA KENDRAS
Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provides postal services through various cost effective schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras opened during each of the last three years and till date, State- wise;

(d) whether there is any proposal to restructure such schemes;

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government so far in this regard; and

(f) the time by which the restructuring work will be completed?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Efforts are being made from time to time to identify more cost effective means of fulfilling the Universal Service Obligation of increasing the customer's access to postal services. Some of the schemes include the Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Scheme, the Licensed Stamp Vendor Scheme and the licensed Postal Agency Scheme.

(c) Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras were opened only in the first two years of the 10th Plan. No targets were given for opening Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras in 2004-05. Circle-wise details of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras opened in the first two years of the 10th Plan are given in the Annexure.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) & (f) The Department seeks to revamp the Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras to enable them to meet the emerging needs of customers more effectively. This exercise is scheduled to be completed by the end of the financial year.

ANNEXURE

Circle-wise number of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras (PSSKs opened during first two years of the 10th Plan)

S.NO	Name of Circle	Number of PSSKs opened	
		2002-03	2003-04
1.	Andhra Pradesh	30	15
2.	Assam	95	65
3.	Bihar	253	96
4	Chhattisgarh	100	70
5	Delhi	Nil	Nil
6	Gujarat	55	23
7	Haryana	55	35
8	Himachal Pradesh	54	44
9	Jammu & Kashmir	10	10
10	Jharkhand	49	48
11	Karnataka	6	3
12	Kerala	Nil	Nil
13	Madhya Pradesh	140	100
14	Maharashtra	150	96
15	North East	56	49
16	Orissa	20	10
17	Punjab	30	15
18	Rajasthan	82	40
19	Tamilnadu	75	40
20	Uttar Pradesh	200	118

21	Uttranchal	20	10
22	West Bengal	2	2
	Total	1482	889

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